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Tables of Data from
WESTERN REGION 4-H CLUB STUDY OF FIRST-YEAR MEMBERS
1949

Western Region 4-H Club Study Committee

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Data assembled from county records of 4-H Club work
in all county Extension Service offices in the States of
California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada,
Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming

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INTRODUCTION

It is important to remember, when reading the data on these tables and charts, that they only show the status of first-year 4-H Club members and existing relationships between given factors. In no case do we have proof that, when two factors are related in a single table, one factor is the cause and the other the result. It is perfectly possible, in every case, that another factor or other factors are associated with both the given factors and cause the apparent correlation between them or prevent actual correlation from being apparent. There is danger of jumping to unwarranted conclusions unless it is recognized that the factors upon which data were collected were limited to those available in all county Extension records.

AGE OF FIRST-YEAR 4-H MEMBERS (Table 1)

There are first-year 4-H Club members of every age eligible for 4-H Club work. It is interesting to notice that more than two-fifths of the first-year members are 12 years of age and over, and that the curve showing the first-year 4-H membership by age follows closely the curve showing the total 4-H membership by age (chart).

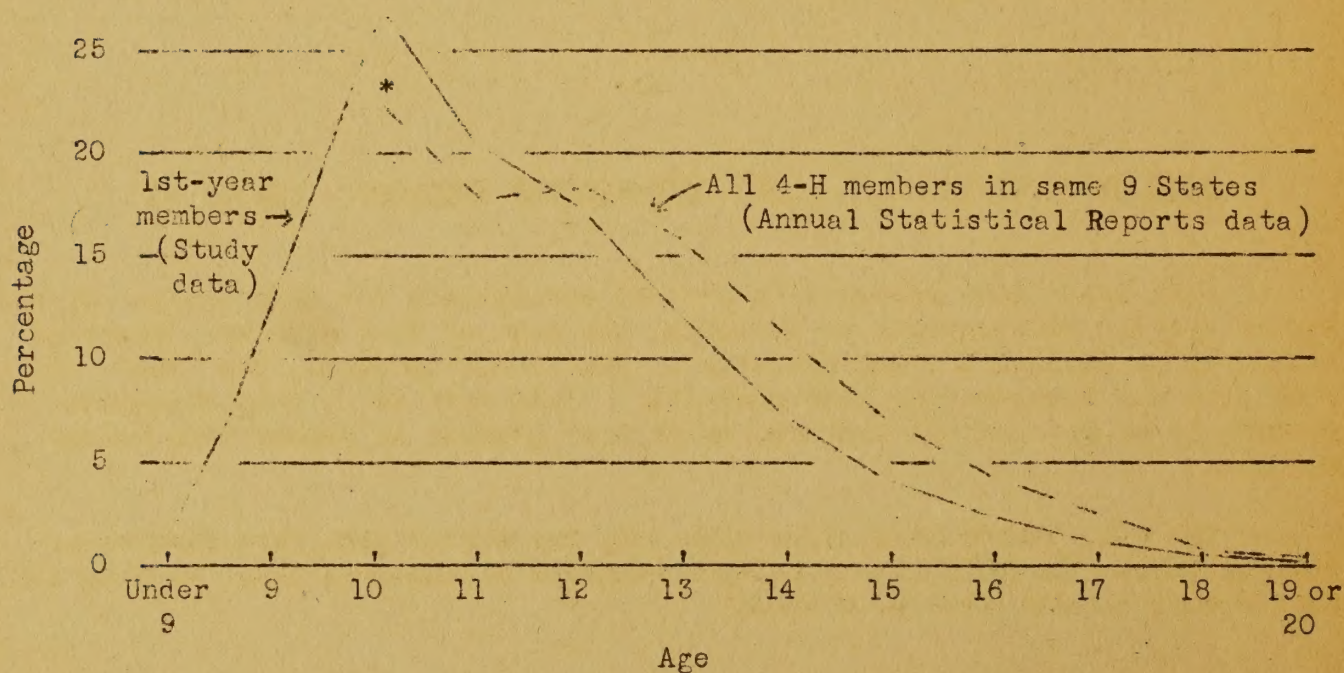
SIZE OF CLUBS TO WHICH FIRST-YEAR MEMBERS BELONGED (Table 2)

Club sizes were recorded by project enrollments for this study. If a member carried two projects in one club, the size of that club was recorded twice; if he carried the two projects in two different clubs, the size of each club was recorded for each project. This gave us as many club-size records as we had project records, which were greater in number than member records.

The 462 records from clubs with only one member were from first-year lone members. The remaining first-year members belonged to clubs ranging in size from 2 to more than 50 members.

Table 1.-- Age of first-year 4-H members

Item	Number of members	Percentage of total
Number of records	53,950	xx
Age:		
7 or 8 years	570	1.1
9 years	5,946	11.1
Under 10 years	6,516	12.2
10 years	13,785	25.7
11 years	10,766	20.1
10 or 11 years	24,551	45.8
12 years	8,832	16.4
13 years	6,352	11.9
12 or 13 years	15,184	28.3
14 years	3,621	6.8
15 years	1,888	3.5
16 years	1,083	2.0
17 years	476	0.9
18 years	195	0.4
19 or 20 years	89	0.2
Over 13 years	7,352	13.7



* Includes 10 and under.

Table 2.--Further description of first-year members - size of club

Item	Number of projects carried in each size club	Percentage of projects carried in each size club
Total number of records ...	60,648	xxx
Size:		
1	462	0.8
2 to 4	1,010	1.7
5 or 6	4,987	8.2
7	3,630	6.0
8	3,990	6.6
9	3,795	6.3
10	3,875	6.4
11	3,379	5.6
12	3,495	5.8
13	3,001	4.9
14 or 15	5,116	8.4
16 or 17	4,566	7.5
18 to 20	4,770	7.9
21 to 25	5,221	8.6
26 to 35	6,058	10.0
36 to 50	2,580	4.3
Over 50	713	1.2

PROJECTS CARRIED BY FIRST-YEAR 4-H MEMBERS (Table 3)

Projects were classified according to the system used in Form ES-21, Combined Annual Report of County Extension Workers.

SOME OTHER CHARACTERISTICS OF FIRST-YEAR MEMBERS (Table 4)

Of the first-year members studied, two-fifths were boys and three-fifths were girls. Over three-fourths of them had been in 4-H Clubs that reorganized for the next year; one-fourth of them had been in clubs that failed to reorganize. Although a greater proportion of the girls reenrolled for a second year, the difference between the girls and the boys was very slight. Nearly three-quarters of these first-year members completed at least one project.

AGE OF FIRST-YEAR MEMBERS AND REORGANIZATION OF CLUBS

TO WHICH THEY BELONGED (Table 5)

If there was any relationship between the age of these first-year members and the fact that their club reorganized, it was covered up by other factors not studied. We have as yet found nothing to indicate that the age of a first-year member is correlated with the reorganization, or the failure to reorganize, of the club which he had joined.

RELATION OF SIZE OF CLUB TO ITS REORGANIZATION (Table 6)

A positive correlation is shown between the size of the clubs in which the first-year members carried their projects and the reorganization of those clubs. The larger the club, the greater was the tendency to reorganize. It will be interesting to study this further to see what is related to size that causes this tendency.

PROJECTS CARRIED BY FIRST-YEAR MEMBERS AS RELATED TO REORGANIZATION OF THE CLUBS TO WHICH THEY BELONGED (Table 7)

There is a relation between the project carried and the reorganization of the club in which it was carried, but we do not know the cause or what other factors entered into the situation. Of those projects carried by 200 or more members, the greatest contrast is between the safety projects, 96 percent of which were carried in clubs that reorganized the following year, and the home management projects, 65 percent of which were carried in clubs that reorganized again.

Table 3.-- Further description of first-year members -- projects carried

Item	Number of projects	Percentage of agricultural projects
Number of projects	60,819	xx
Projects carried:		
Agricultural:		
Number of agricultural projects ...	21,816	xx
Dairy cattle	3,732	17.1
Home gardens	3,327	15.3
Beef cattle	3,049	14.0
Swine	2,253	10.3
Poultry	2,102	9.6
Rabbits	1,675	7.7
Sheep	1,332	6.1
Forestry	1,229	5.6
Home grounds	617	2.8
Agricultural engineering	492	2.3
Horses and mules	417	1.9
Safety	303	1.4
Potatoes	272	1.2
Other crops	228	1.0
Corn	220	1.0
Other cereals	195	0.9
Market gardens	149	0.7
Wildlife, etc.	113	0.5
Soybeans, etc.	111	0.5
		Percentage of homemaking projects
Homemaking projects:		
Number of homemaking projects	37,645	xx
Clothing	18,548	49.3
Food preparation and selection ..	10,720	28.4
Health	6,013	16.0
Home industries	861	2.3
Food preservation	720	1.9
Home furnishings	593	1.6
Home management	190	0.5
Others: Number of other projects ..	1,358	xx
Junior leadership	63	xx
Other, miscellaneous	1,295	xx

Table 4.-- Further description of first-year members

Item	Number of members	Percentage of total
Number of records	53,950	xx
Sex:		
Boys	21,909	40.8
Girls	31,842	59.2
No report on sex	199	xx
Club reorganized:		
Yes	41,893	78.2
No	11,686	21.8
No report on reorganization of club	371	xx
		<u>Percentage of boys</u>
Reenrolled:		
Boys: Yes	10,895	50.3
No	10,760	49.7
No report on reenrollment	254	xx
		<u>Percentage of girls</u>
Girls: Yes	16,630	52.7
No	14,902	47.3
No report on reenrollment	310	xx
		<u>Percentage of total</u>
Project completion:		
Any project completed	38,835	72.4
No project completed	14,784	27.6
No report on project completion	351	xx

Table 5.--Age of first-year members as related to reorganization of club

Item	Number of members of each age		Percentage of members of each age in reorganized clubs
	In all clubs	In reorganized clubs	
Total number of records	53,950	41,893	78.9
Age:			
Less than 9 years	570	402	71.2
9 years	5,946	4,741	80.3
10 years	13,785	11,159	81.4
11 years	10,766	8,249	77.1
12 years	8,832	6,790	77.3
13 years	6,352	4,853	76.8
14 years	3,621	2,710	75.3
15 years	1,888	1,397	74.8
16 years	1,033	824	76.7
17 years	476	355	74.9
18 years	195	148	76.3
19 or 20 years	89	55	63.2
No report on age	347	210	66.4

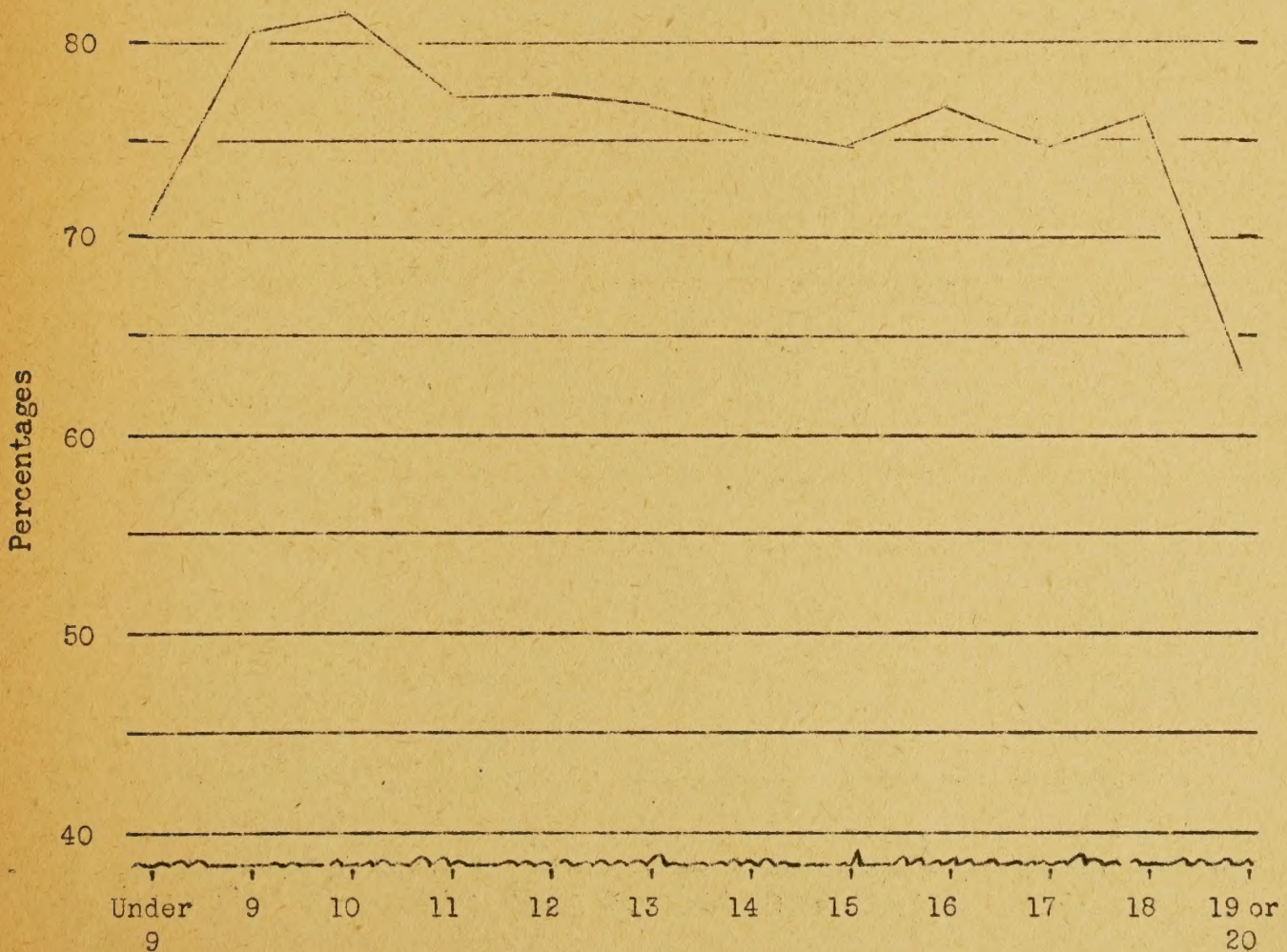
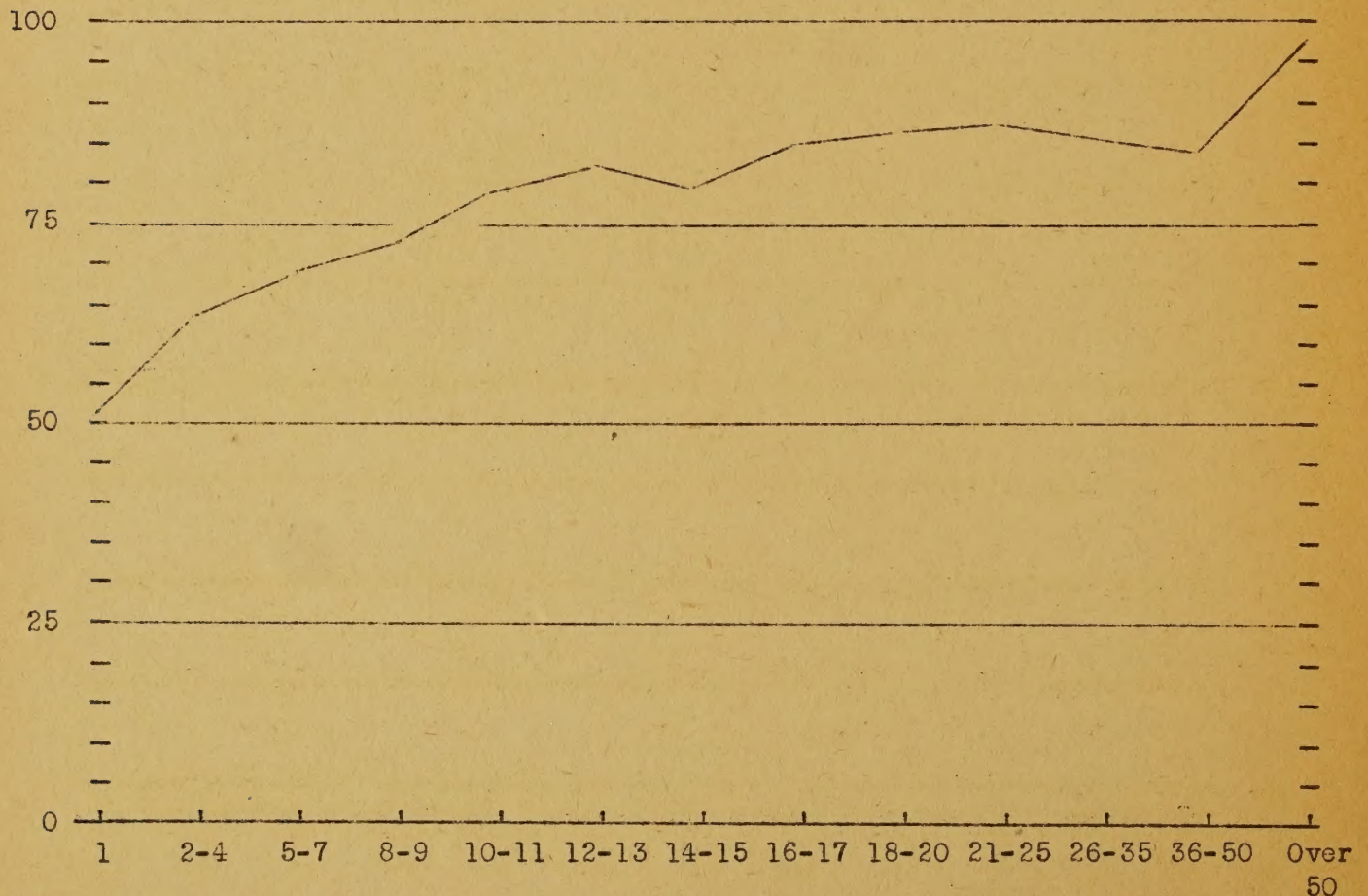


Table 6.-- Relation of size of clubs to which first-year members belong, to reorganization of those clubs

Item	Number of projects carried in each size club		Percentage of each size club reorganized
	In all clubs	In reorganized clubs	
Total number of records	60,648	47,531	78.9
Size of club:			
1	462	208	51.4
2 to 4	1,010	634	63.4
5 to 7	8,617	5,827	68.2
8 or 9	7,785	5,639	72.9
10 or 11	7,254	5,615	77.7
12 or 13	6,496	5,331	82.4
14 or 15	5,116	4,002	78.4
16 or 17	4,566	3,844	84.5
18 to 20	4,770	4,036	85.4
21 to 25	5,221	4,471	86.0
26 to 35	6,058	5,123	84.8
36 to 50	2,580	2,113	82.6
Over 50	713	688	96.4

Percent of reorganization



Size of clubs

Table 7.-- Projects carried by first-year members as related to reorganization of clubs

Item	Number of each project carried		Percentage of each project carried in clubs that were reorganized
	In all clubs	In reorganized clubs	
Total number of project records	60,819	47,623	78.8
Projects:			
Agricultural projects	21,816	18,233	84.1
Safety	303	289	96.0
Other crops	228	215	94.3
Horses and mules	417	373	89.7
Potatoes	272	240	88.6
Rabbits	1,675	1,473	88.3
Swine	2,253	1,954	87.9
Poultry	2,102	1,827	87.3
Market gardens, etc. .	149	129	86.6
Dairy cattle	3,732	3,192	86.1
Beef cattle	3,049	2,600	86.1
Sheep	1,332	1,117	84.4
Corn	220	183	83.2
Other cereals	195	160	82.1
Home gardens	3,327	2,631	79.4
Soybeans, etc.	111	88	79.3
Home grounds	617	481	78.4
Forestry	1,229	887	72.5
Agricultural engineering	492	327	66.9
Wildlife, etc.	113	67	60.4
Homemaking projects	37,645	28,459	76.1
Food preservation	720	590	82.4
Clothing	18,548	14,871	80.5
Food preparation and selection	10,720	8,095	75.9
Home furnishings	593	396	67.1
Health, etc.	6,013	3,857	65.2
Home industries	861	547	64.6
Home management	190	103	54.2
Other projects	1,358		
Junior leadership	63	51	81.0
Others	1,295	880	68.1

OTHER CHARACTERISTICS OF FIRST-YEAR MEMBERS AS RELATED TO
REORGANIZATION OF THE CLUB TO WHICH THEY BELONGED (Table 8)

The data indicated that the clubs to which first-year boys belonged reorganized as often as those to which the girls belonged. There is a correlation between reenrollment of the first-year members and the reorganization of the clubs to which they belonged. A larger percentage of the clubs to which first-year members who had completed their project work belonged reorganized than of the clubs to which the first-year members who did not complete their project work belonged.

Table 8.-- Relation of specified characteristics of first-year members to reorganization of clubs

Item	Total number of members in all clubs	Number of members in reorganized clubs	Percentage of members in reorganized clubs
Total number of records	53,950	41,893	78.2
By sex:			
Boys	21,909	16,944	78.0
Girls	31,842	24,803	78.3
No report	199	146	xx
Boys:			
Who had reenrolled	10,895	10,224	94.0
Who had not reenrolled ..	10,760	6,618	61.7
Girls:			
Who had reenrolled	16,630	15,532	93.5
Who had not reenrolled ..	14,902	9,093	61.1
By project completion:			
Had completed a project .	38,835	31,926	82.8
Had not completed a project	14,784	9,745	66.4

REORGANIZATION OF CLUBS AND REENROLLMENT OF FIRST-YEAR MEMBERS (Table 9)

Reenrollment of first-year members and reorganization of the clubs to which they belonged seem to go hand in hand. It will be helpful to learn what factors cause both of these things to happen. Certainly when clubs do not reorganize, a small percentage of the members reenroll in another 4-H Club.

Table 9.--Relation between reorganization of clubs and reenrollment of first-year members

Boys:

Percentage in <u>reorganized</u> clubs who reenrolled in a club ..	60.7
Percentage in <u>nonreorganized</u> clubs who had reenrolled in another club	13.7

Girls:

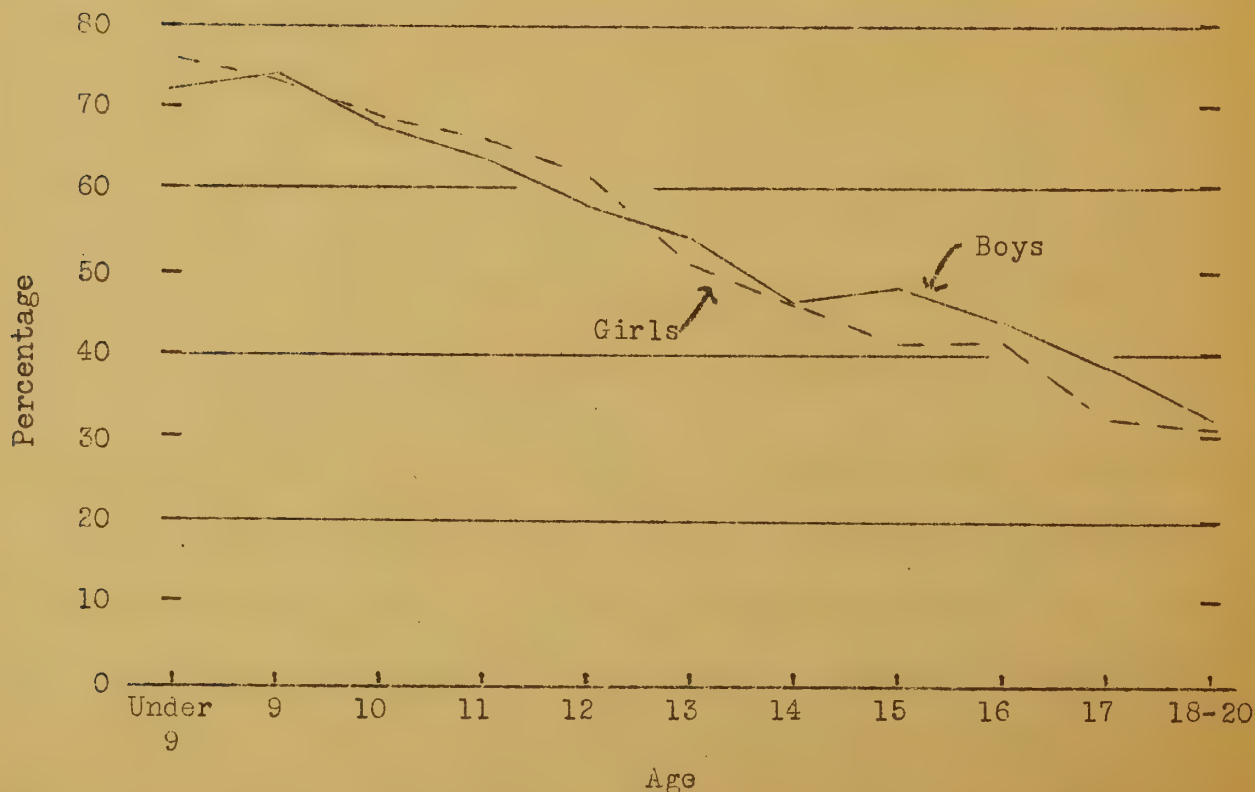
Percentage in <u>reorganized</u> clubs who reenrolled in a club ..	63.1
Percentage in <u>nonreorganized</u> clubs who had reenrolled in another club	15.7

RELATION BETWEEN AGE OF FIRST-YEAR MEMBERS AND THEIR REENROLLMENT IN 4-H (Table 10)

Regardless of what the cause, it is a fact that the older the boys and girls were who joined 4-H Clubs the less likely they were to reenroll for a second year. These data probably do not give a valid picture of the reenrollment of children under 10 years of age, since in most areas these younger children are in the work because of outstanding interest or special parental backing.

Table 10.-- Relation of age of first-year members to their reenrollment - reorganized clubs

Item	Boys			Girls		
	Number		Percent-	Number		Percent-
			age of			age of
	Total	Who reen-rolled	each age who re-enrolled	Total	Who reen-rolled	each age who re-enrolled
Total number of records	16,944	10,224	60.7	24,803	15,532	63.1
Ages:						
Less than 9 years	163	118	72.4	238	179	75.8
9 years	1,669	1,238	74.3	3,066	2,246	73.4
10 years	4,133	2,782	67.9	6,986	4,761	68.7
11 years	3,175	2,029	64.3	5,045	3,314	66.3
12 years	2,721	1,562	57.7	4,037	2,479	62.0
13 years	2,160	1,176	54.8	2,683	1,360	50.9
14 years	1,312	611	46.9	1,390	642	46.4
15 years	730	351	48.1	664	274	41.4
16 years	435	191	44.3	385	161	41.8
17 years	209	80	38.4	145	47	32.4
18 to 20 years	139	44	31.7	64	20	31.3



RELATION OF SIZE OF CLUB TO REENROLLMENT OF FIRST-YEAR

4-H CLUB MEMBERS (Table 11)

Our data here show fewer first-year 4-H members reenrolling in the larger clubs than in the smaller ones. Such data have a number of implications. Earlier tables indicate that larger clubs are more likely to reorganize than the smaller ones, and they have also indicated that 4-H members reenroll to a greater degree from reorganized clubs than from those that fail to reorganize. Such combinations of tables of data show clearly that either first-year members are unlike members with greater length of membership or that other factors are affecting the results, or both. Further study is needed to clarify these findings.

RELATION OF PROJECTS CARRIED BY FIRST-YEAR MEMBERS TO

REENROLLMENT A SECOND YEAR (Table 12)

Our data point toward a tendency for boys and girls to be more likely to reenroll after taking certain projects than others. There is a difference of about 25 percent between the highest and lowest projects, considering only those with 200 or more enrollments. These data, like the others, cannot be taken as proof of inadequacy of certain projects. We need to know why more boys and girls reenroll after taking some projects than after taking others.

RELATION OF REENROLLMENT OF FIRST-YEAR MEMBERS

TO THEIR PROJECT COMPLETION (Table 13)

Three times as many first-year boys and girls who completed their project work reenrolled the next year as did those who did not complete any project work. This may mean that if some of the causes of noncompletion are removed, some of the causes for failure to reenroll may also be removed.

Table 11.--Size of club as related to reenrollment of first-year members -- reorganized clubs

Item	Boys			Girls		
	Number of		Percent-	Number of		Percent-
	Members	age of		Members	age of	
	who re-	members	who re-	members		
	Club	enrolled	reen-	Club	enrolled	reen-
sizes	in each	rolling	sizes	in each	rolling	
reported	size	by club	reported	size	by club	
	club	size		club	size	
Total number of records	19,068	11,635	61.4	28,289	17,892	63.8
Size of club:						
1	109	95	87.2	99	80	80.8
2 to 4	225	166	74.4	403	294	73.5
5 to 7	1,821	1,253	69.1	3,981	2,759	69.7
8 or 9	1,766	1,151	65.4	3,847	2,622	68.4
10 or 11	1,898	1,248	66.0	3,697	2,440	66.9
12 or 13	2,127	1,303	62.0	3,189	1,995	63.3
14 or 15	1,609	1,019	63.4	2,382	1,484	62.4
16 or 17	1,547	937	61.5	2,275	1,368	61.7
18 to 20	1,827	1,052	58.4	2,191	1,308	60.3
21 to 25	2,188	1,271	58.4	2,258	1,337	59.3
26 to 35	2,660	1,307	49.2	2,459	1,414	57.6
36 to 50	972	651	68.2	1,139	619	54.8
Over 50	319	182	57.1	369	172	46.6

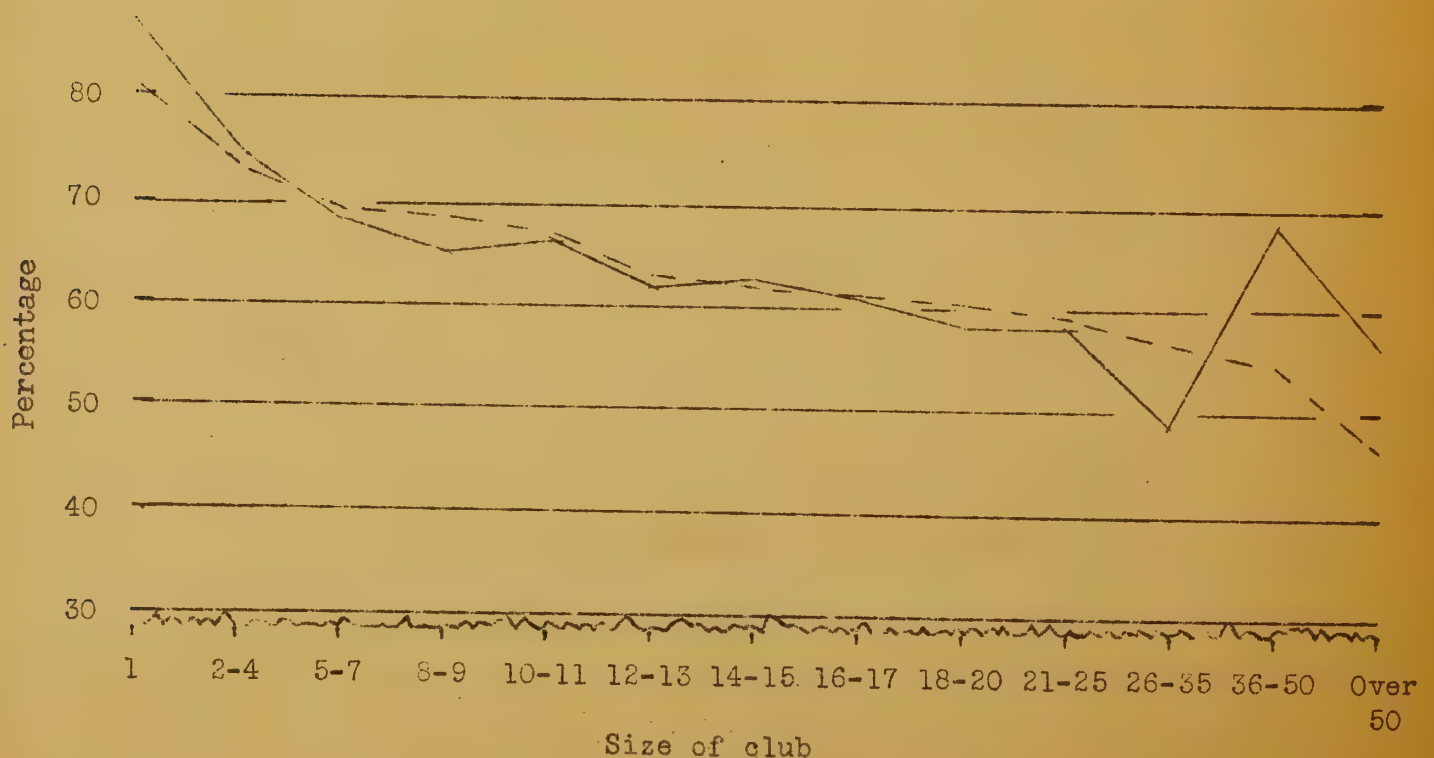


Table 12.-- Projects as related to reenrollment - first-year members
in reorganized clubs

Item	Boys			Girls		
	Number		Percent-	Number		Percent-
	Total	Re-enrolled		Total	Re-enrolled	
Total number of project records	19,036	11,617	61.4	28,418	17,977	63.8
Agricultural projects:						
Other cereals	154	118	78.7	6	6	100.0
Other crops	195	140	72.5	20	13	65.0
Corn	172	121	70.8	11	8	72.7
Beef cattle	2,079	1,408	68.4	513	391	77.0
Sheep	825	554	68.4	288	225	80.1
Potatoes	221	146	68.2	17	17	100.0
Swine	1,725	1,126	65.8	226	169	76.1
Dairy cattle	2,643	1,707	64.9	540	402	75.0
Safety	219	141	64.7	69	39	56.5
Forestry	722	426	59.2	163	83	50.9
Soybeans, etc.	69	40	58.0	19	12	63.2
Home gardens	2,070	1,184	57.4	557	371	67.4
Poultry	1,477	824	56.0	348	218	64.1
Agricultural engin- eering, etc.	320	177	55.7	7	3	42.9
Home grounds	263	143	54.4	215	143	66.5
Horses and mules ..	239	122	52.6	134	75	56.0
Rabbits	1,217	631	52.0	247	157	64.3
Market gardens, etc.	109	51	47.7	20	11	64.7
Wildlife, etc.	55	17	30.9	12	7	58.3
Homemaking projects:						
Home management ...	13	8	61.5	92	67	72.8
Health	1,980	1,224	61.9	1,873	1,255	67.5
Home industries ...	401	258	64.3	139	92	66.2
Home furnishings ..	41	20	48.8	357	227	65.4
Food preservation ..	35	22	62.9	553	360	65.4
Food preparation and selection ...	1,053	615	58.9	7,000	4,523	65.2
Clothing	160	82	51.3	14,641	8,904	61.3
Other projects:						
Junior leadership ..	17	9	52.9	34	21	61.8
Others	562	303	54.2	317	178	56.3

Table 13.-- Relation of reenrollment of first-year members to their project completion -- reorganized clubs

Item	Boys			Girls		
	Number		'Percent- 'age of	Number		'Percent- 'age of
			'each			'each
			'class			'class
	Total	'enrolled	'who re- 'enrolled	Total	'enrolled	'who re- 'enrolled
Total number of records	16,964	10,224	60.6	24,803	15,532	63.1
Completed a project:						
Yes	12,350	8,853	72.1	19,495	14,056	72.7
No	4,482	1,295	29.0	5,200	1,412	27.3
No report	132	76	58.4	108	64	60.4

RELATION OF PROJECT COMPLETION OF FIRST-YEAR MEMBERS

TO THEIR AGE (Table 14)

Since reenrollment of first-year members seems to be related to their age, for some reason, we wondered if completion of their project work was also related to their age. We have seen that there is some relation between completion and reenrollment. Our data indicate a correlation between age and completion of project work -- the older the first-year members are, the smaller the proportion of them who complete a project. The correlation is not as high as with reenrollment, as the chart shows.

REENROLLMENT OF FIRST-YEAR MEMBERS AS RELATED TO PROJECTS

CARRIED THAT THEY DID COMPLETE (Table 15)

Table 12 indicated a possible array of projects according to the tendency of first-year members to reenroll after taking them. As a first attempt to get at the reasons for this difference between projects, we separated out the first-year members who had not completed the given projects, and calculated the percentage of reenrollment from noncompleted projects. Table 15 lists the percentage of reenrollment from noncompleted projects for which 100 or more boys or girls were enrolled, and beside each such percentage is the position of the project in its order from table 12 where both completed and noncompleted projects were considered. It seems as though there might be some reasons for first-year members' greater failure to reenroll when they do not complete certain projects than when they do not complete certain other projects.

Table 14.-- Relation of project completion of first-year members
to their age - reorganized clubs

Item	Boys			Girls		
	Total	Number 'com- 'pleting	Percent- 'age com- 'pleting	Total	Number 'com- 'pleting	Percent- 'age com- 'pleting
Total number of records	16,944	12,289	73.4	24,803	19,424	79.0
Ages:						
Under 10	1,825	1,496	82.0	3,281	2,799	85.3
10 years	4,105	3,167	77.1	6,960	5,684	81.7
11 years	3,155	2,343	74.3	5,017	4,005	79.8
12 years	2,696	1,933	71.7	4,028	3,152	78.3
13 years	2,148	1,517	70.6	2,678	1,921	71.7
14 or 15 years	2,032	1,352	66.5	2,045	1,444	70.6
16 years and over ..	778	481	61.8	588	419	71.3
No report	205	xx	xx	206	xx	xx

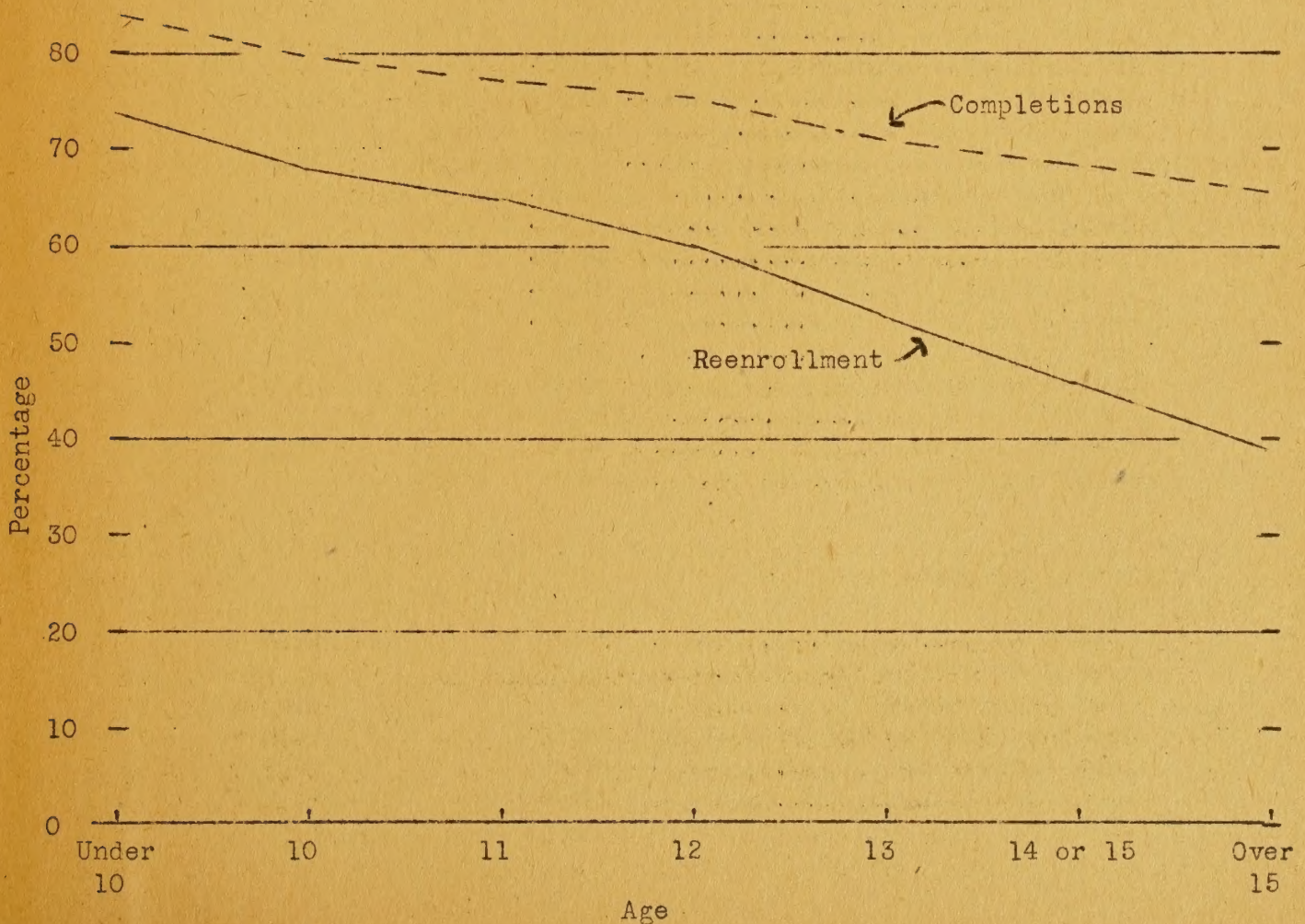


Table 15.-- Data indicating which projects, when incomplete, show highest reenrollment of first-year members

Item	Percent- age of reen- rollment	Order when complete and in- complete projects are con- sidered	Percent- age of reen- rollment	Order when complete and in- complete projects are con- sidered
	Boys		Girls	

Average percentage of reenrollment for those completing the projects included in this table	72.8		73.5	
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Comparative percentages of reenrollment for those not completing the following projects:

Agricultural projects:

Safety	55.0	9		
Corn	54.9	3		
Other crops	43.4	2		
Agricultural engineering, etc.	41.6	13		
Forestry	39.9	10	27.8	
Other cereals	39.5	1		
Beef cattle	37.5	4	53.6	
Potatoes	35.2	6		
Swine	35.1	7		
Sheep	34.6	5	47.3	
Dairy cattle	33.0	8	41.3	
Home grounds	32.8	14	51.2	
Home gardens	30.6	11	39.8	
Horses and mules	30.2	15	43.6	
Poultry	28.1	12	39.0	
Rabbits	25.6	16	38.7	
Market gardens	10.5	17		

Homemaking projects:

Health	50.9		48.9	1
Home furnishings			41.1	3
Food preservation			35.6	4
Food preparation and selection	35.9		34.5	5
Home industries	47.9		31.8	2
Clothing	35.2		28.6	6

